

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (319) reside in the Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (60) of Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 75.8% of admissions from the Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District were male and 24.1% were female.
- Over 67.3% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 87.1% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.8% were black non-Latino, 5.9% were Latino, 3.1% were Asians, and 1.8% were other racial categories.
- 61.4% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 14.7% were married, and 17.8% reported not to be married now.
- 23.5% of admissions had less than high school education, 53.9% completed high school, and 22.5% had more than high school education.
- 39.1% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 10.6% of those admitted were homeless.
- 11.6% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	307	249	88	106	68	109	74
FY '96	310	262	98	101	53	113	87
FY '97	384	305	104	91	64	126	96
FY '98	342	252	97	95	63	141	108
FY '99	437	304	89	110	61	215	196
FY '00	406	310	106	94	46	170	140
FY '01	319	226	70	68	26	134	99

- Since FY 1995, residents of Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District reported a decrease in alcohol use, but an increase in heroin use. Alcohol use decreased by 9%, while heroin use increased by 22%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use decreased by 20%, cocaine by 35%, and crack use by 61%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirty-third Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	48.2 %	37.3%	3.7%	1.8%	2.1%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While marijuana, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and heroin was higher within your District.